

WE CLAIM:

1. A support structure for a soffit, said support structure comprising:
a first member having a central vertical section, a support element extending outwardly from a lower portion of said central vertical section, a retaining structure located proximate an upper portion of said central vertical section;
a second member having a second member central section adapted to lie adjacent said central section of said first member, said second member having engaging means located at a lower portion of said central section, said engaging means being designed to engage said support element of said first member, said second member having a second portion extending upwardly and outwardly to abut a soffit;
the arrangement being such that said second member central section is retained between said retaining structure of said first member and said support element of said first member.
2. The support structure of Claim 1 wherein said support element comprises an outwardly directed flange, said vertical section of said second member having a plurality of projections extending outwardly towards said first member, the arrangement being such that said projections rest on said outwardly directed flange.
3. The support structure of Claim 1 wherein said first member and said second member are formed from metallic sheet material.
4. The support structure of Claim 3 wherein said metallic sheet material is selected from the group consisting of aluminum and aluminum alloys.

5. The support structure of Claim 1 wherein said retaining means first member has a U-shaped channel sized to frictionally receive and engage said planar portion of said second member.